Height of Mullaperiyar dam

4079. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: SHRI C. PERUMAL

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court has given a judgement regarding increasing the height of Mullaperiyar dam;

(b) if so, whether State Government of Kerala has enacted a legislation to counter the Supreme Court Judgement; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken to increase the height of Mullaperiyar dam?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN-SOZ): (a) No, Sir. In the Judgement pronounced by the Hon'ble Su-preme Court of India on 27th February, 2006 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 386 of 2001 there is no direction to increase the height of Mullaperiyar dam. But the Supreme Court in the said judgement has permitted to raise water level of Mullaperiyar dam reservoir from 136 to 142 feet.

(b) As per Chapter - XII of the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation Act, 2003, the State Government is empowered to constitute a Dam Safety Authority for the purpose of surveillance, inspection, and advice on maintenance of dams situated within the territory of the State. The functions of the Authority is also prescribed in the said chapter of the Act. Accordingly, the State Government by Notification dated 18th February, 2006 had constituted the Kerala Dam Safety Authority. It was noticed by the Government of Kerala that for ensuring the safety and security of the dams and for the effective functioning of the Authority, it should be vested with more powers as well as enhanced functions. So, in the special session of the Kerala Legislature held on 14th and 15th March, 2006 the Assembly had passed the Kerala Irrigation and Water Conservation (Amendment) Act, 2006 in order to give additional powers to the Kerala Dam Safety

Authority. The functions of the Authority were also enhanced in order to ensure safety and maintenance of all dams in Kerala, including Mullaperiyardam.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the height of Mullaperiyar dam.

Functioning of major reservoirs

t4080. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: SHRI
RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only 76 major reservoirs are functional in the country;

(b) if not, the actual number thereof;

(c) the number of such reservoirs, State-wise, and the average annual availability of water in each of these reservoirs; and

(d) the percentage of agricultural and irrigated land from the water available in the said reservoirs, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (PROF. SAIF-UD-DIN SOZ): (a) and (b) At the end of Ninth Five Year Plan, 4050 large dams have been constructed. A dam having a maximum height of more than 15 metre from its deepest foundation to the crest is classified as large dam. A dam between 10 to 15 metre in height from its deepest foundation has been included in the classification of a large dam in certain circumstances. However, Central Water Commission (CWC) monitors the storage position of 76 important reservoirs spread all over the country.

(c) and (d) A statement containing a number of reservoirs being monitored by CWC State-wise along with their last 10 years average annual storage as on 12.5.2006 in Thousand Million Cubic Metre (T. M. Cum) & Culturable Command Area (CCA) in thousand hectare (TH. HA.) is attached, **t Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.**